THE SIREN'S CHANGE

You, Marcia, you?"

The scene was the departure platform at St. Pancras station; time, early evenspeaker, a man with the straight, well-set-up figure of a military the person he addressed, a lady having an indefinable air of distinction, with good looks, a fine figure, and instinct with sensurous charm.

"You?" he repeated. "Where in heaven a name have you dropped from?" You would rather it has not happened-

You wish I had not come. You did plan it, then? You arranged to

"Not quite that, Ludovic; you go too fast. I did not mean to throw myself at your head, to force my society, my comclouship, on you. But I wanted to see you once more, to hear your voice, to touch your hand, if only for the last You are going into danger; who knows what may happen in this terriwar? God help me, it's too awful." Her volce shook now with a gust of audden emotion.

There, there," he caught her despairing accent, and spoke with a certain pitying tenderness, as though touched by her 'That's all nonsense. I shall come back; of course I shall come back."

But not to me, never to me-you be only just left her, she is the last in your thoughts; yet it is I, the woman you have scorned and flouted, and thrown aside who is the one to bid you adieu. It is not she who is here now to see the last of

You know very well why my wife is not at the station; that she is on a bed of sickness; that she is with our child. would have prevented me; mine is the truest, deepest love, for I risk everything waive everything, to prove it me from you, Ludovic? Let me stay with you, dear, if only for a little time. The train is due out in less than ten

"itut only bear with me to the last; suffer me to accompany you to the platform, to shake hands with you, and bid you godspeed as you go out into the is so little for you to grant and it means so much to me."

He consented, reluctantly, yet how could gaineny such pitiful pleading, expressed in such heartrending tones?

New they stood hand in hand by the or at the entrance of the dinthe ear, and the fateful seconds flew by ill the moment come for farewell. The officials were shouting "Stand clear!" the guard had waved his flag, the train one rush and venturesome spring, she landed herself upon the step and fell nimost into his nrms.

too late; it's not safe! I must go on now." all the madeap escapades!" he eried, hotly protesting. "It is perfectly monstrous! I cannot permit it! Stop,

stop. Hi, guard." But she answered him with a gay, triumphantlaugh, and covered his mouth with her soft, white hand,

efuse absolutely. I have my ticket; I claim my rights. No one shall prevent Interferent traveling by this train, you, Ludovic, least of all. I did it for you, dear. Why are you so cruel?" Her mock-Ing reckless tone maked into hewitching sweetness as the clung to him, and held him under the glamour of her birght, be-

"Only for an hour or two," she went

ened he had abated something of his second parting.

gave the order herself to the conductor. weighed. Now, my friend, make the best of it,"

My plot has succeeded perfectly-I *Live he I decided to come too. My maid is with me; she took the tickets injury.-San Francisco Bulletin.

For Liverpool? She knows, then?" may be a risk, but the advantages more

And Lord Milcombe?" Oho! As if he cared! My worthy lord private conversation with you on a little the So I am here, as you see. I have matter of business. toot. I hold you here, fast bound for at least a couple of hours. We are in terenotes. These people"-there were other honorable, and thatdiners in the car-"do not count. We are such a chance as this!

ture You were never worthy of the love that was lavished on you, of the deep passion that was wasted on you; you of it per cent, I have for several years of consequences."

els. In that old time it was for your sake scattered around in various banks. If it that I fought with the remptation, and, as became necessary I could raise \$50.00 in ped, computered it. I thought most of

and have we parted, irrevocably; forshe whispered low, but with interm eagerness, "Has not chance, no. was my deliberate design; anyhow, we alone, as in the happy past, all in all to each other still. Can you look into my eyes and tell me that I have no longer a place—the chief place—in your heart "" There is a barrier between us," he pro-

here always was. The obstacle of Herald. old was on my side, but it did not weigh PPROFESSION OF FINDING THINGS Lindsborg and return March 25 to April th me. We everpassed it hand in hand; why not again, Ludovic""

keen sense of disappointment, for he was on the point of giving in. The train began unmistakably to slacken speed. They were running into Ket-

mean to do?"

"Stay where I am," she replied with groveking nonchalance, through which firm resolve was perfectly apparent.

He ran the blind up and looked out on the line. They were very near Kettering now; soon they slipped past the lighted se of the signal man, then came to the first rare gas lamps, and at last pulled up at the platform of the station as

It so chanced that aonther express, inited on the opposite track. Its passenor idly gazing through the carriage windows, as travelers do when they meet he saw nothing cleary at first, nothing and found their way there. real or tangible was conveyed to his men-

on, no wwith unconcealed anxiety and only because there was not sufficient evirising rage. "Is it so, my preux cavaller?" dence upon which to hold her,

top speed to the bridge that crossed the having read in the newspaper an acing through it like an eager hound hot on | That happened to be an honest man. the scent, questing high and low.

He had seen a face at the window, lar bills in an envelope that was cast the face he loved best in the world, his aside, and only a few days ago the loss wife's face, wearing a look he had never of two one-hundred bills were prevented seen on it before. It was white, wan, and by the promptness of a clerk in an inpitiful, upbraiding, and withal full of surance office. awful warning; it was instinct with a horror of concentrated anguish, as at real and lifelike was the vision that he frm where he had left her just two the envelope. hours before-and left her an invalid, mable to move from bed.

while he still ran to and fro, still at was moving slewly ahead, when with fault, the train continued its journey to reason. Fortunately the waste paper den with no chance of alighting by the

tried to thrust her back. "You can't! It's came of the next two quiet hours, Ludovic Leferve was able to pull himself to- to light intact.-New York Herald, gether, and in a measure recover his wits, victim of some spectral illusion, some false and far-fetched impression, and yet tirely. It was not easy to believe that Tokid in the Chinese war at the rallway the vision had been sent him by some station; Suddenly the public are instructfrom a shameful lapse thto wrongdoing; locked. At last the great iron gates at yet he liked to think so, to refer it to be end of the platform are opened and or telepathy between their two spirit na-tures, strong enough to produce this ex-pany arrives at the front carriage.

on, coaxingly. 'a few short, fleeting when he arrived in town to satisfy him-hours—a comple at most. The first stop soft that she was in no immediate danger. no band playing 'The Girl I Left Behind is at Kettering. I will get out there if '- He entered the sickroom on tiptoe and Me." "All is quiet, all is great"; everyshe hesitated, dropping her voice and found her sleeping peacefully, but with thing betokens order and quiet determine velied her glorious eyes-"if you still his name on her lips, and prayers for his ation. Now the train has gone, the great sh to drive me from you."

Safety, he felt sure, mingling with her gates are shut, the turnstiles are opened, dreams. He went out as softly as he the next ordinary passengers 'train is of Music in Wichta.

well, well, so be it; you shall be well hooved him to use all despatch with his rid of me at Kettering." Again she interrupted journey, and by the train resist such a nation as this? en any line, if needs be by special train. preting his changing mood . "Now let us He caught one from Euston before midmake the most of our time. In common might by the L. and N. W. R., not the courts you must give me some dinner Midland, and thus reached Liverpool. where is your table? They shall | Before daylight he was aboard the transport lying in the Mersey with the Blue She led the way in the Pullman and Peter flying Just as the anchor was

They were selling papers on the steam she began, with light-hearted raillery. tug that took him out into the stream, You are caught. Don't you think I've and the first he opened told of a terrible railway accident on the line by which he 'As how?" he grunted, refusing to be had traveled as far as Kettering on the scoped, and several of its occupants had will confess frankly there was a plot. met their deaths. Among them the body I know you were leaving London by this of Viscountess Mileombe had been identias his enemy. train. I was on my way to the Durbi- ned by the French maid, who, being in another part of the train, had escaped

ONCE UPON A TIME.

Once there was a young girl who was from Javotte; you should know that, it madly in love with a heautiful girl. After he had called on her a few times her fa-"I should like to have a few minutes

The young man's heart began to beat on through all-won all, except you. At violently, and his face turned very red-"I assure you, Mr. Miggleham," he

"I beg your pardon for interrupting," practically alone. Come, come, let us put said the girls father, but before we back the clock a year or two, and think proceed any farther I should like to ask what we were to each other then. How you a few questions. What are your re-

His brow had become cloudy again, his Have you any money in the bank? Have "Oh," replied the young man, becoming made great fools of ourselves," he said, enthusiastic, "I think I can reassure you And you regret it? Oh, you poor creat place, I inherited \$20,000 from my grandon these points very quickly. In the first always too cold, too calculating- held a lucrative position, and I've been your marriage showed that-too much careful in using my money. I have invested \$12,000 in a house and lot, which do not deserve your reprotaches, Mar- 1 rent for \$175 a month, and have money such temorrow, and I have no reason to

doubt that I shall continue to advance "Very well," the old man replied Much obliged. I've just been appointnot chance. I scorn to pretend that-it ed a member of the board of equilization and I notice that you are down on the list for \$435 worth of personal property. while your \$12,000 house is listed as be-

ing worth \$50. Good morning." When the young man revived an hour later, it was found that his reason was gone, perhaps forever.-Chicago Record-

Only an observant person realizes what "No. no. I cannot, I must not," he stam- a number of people gain a living through 5, 1994, for \$3.05 round trip. mered, irresolute, nghting still, but in his the sale of articles found among the last entrenchments, when salvation came waste paper and other rubbish deposited to him; not, if truth were told, without a in ash boxes and garbage cans, or thrown Missouri Pacific Station, Wichita, Kan | 221 and 222 S. Santa Fa, Wichita, Kan.

promiseuously together on the dumping crounds adjacent to every city and town. It is also a revelation to the uninform ed to learn what a variety of valuable things find their way to these places "Here we are," he blurted out abrupt-ly; "this is Kettering. What do you for them and put to some commercial

Besides the usual bone, scrap iron, rag and paper pickers to be seen frequenting the dumping grounds or wandering up and down the streets, turning over the contents of boxes and cans, are the older and poorer men and women who search for coal among the ashes and make way with everything in the nature of kindling wood that comes within their

Then there is another class of persons outhward bound upon the up track, was whose existence is barely suspected by many, who turn over the dirt and rubgers were plainly visible, seated within, bish with fverish haste, shake out the bits of rags and newspapers, turn the envelopes upside down and scan every hidothers on the road. Ludovic Leferve was aen receptable for maney, valuable pastaring like the rest, but with mind so pers, jewelry and other articles that ccupied with his present trouble that might have bee ntossed among the waste

Not long ago a New York woman lost a ostly solitaire diamond ring. Suspicion All at once he jumped to his feet with fell upon a servant employed in the a startled exclamation, and prepared to household, and she was arrested and put through a severe course of question-"What is it?" carelessly inquired his ing at the police station. She was in empanion. The question was repeated Lysteries when she was finally released, believed to be guilty by her mistress and "Are you going to leave me?" she went the police captain, but given her liberty

Discretion is the better part of valor, Ther ing was never stolen, but had falland the brave Col. Leferve takes to his en into a waste paper basket, which stood But you will lose your passage at one side of the woman's dressing taat Liverpool; you will not embark with bie. The contents of the basket were your regiment, and then what will people burned in the furnace, but did not injure the stone, which was carried away She was talking to the empty air, for he in the ashes an dthrown upon some low was gone. He had hurled from the car, ground on the outskirts of the city. An and was running along the platform at eagle-eyed German spled the stone, and He mounted the stairs in wild count of the woman's loss, carried the haste, and so gained the up train, a cor-ridor train, into which he climbed, hunt-paper and was handsomely rewarded. Another searcher found three fifty dol-

The two bills were received in an envelope along with an insurance policy some terrible, nearly impending trouble, that was to be altered. The clerk was What could have brought her here? So not aware of their presence, and the woman who came in wit hthe envelope did not pause to consider the physical had forgotten about them. They were impossibility of her being a hundred miles | thrown into the waste basket along with

several hours afterward she hurried to He was too much upset to reason from the insurance office and accused the clerk these palpable facts, to satisfy himself of having stolen the money. Although that what he had seen must be a figment | he was entirely innocent, it was impossiof his own disordered imagination, and ble to convince the frate owner, for she south, and he was carried back to Lon- was traced to the shanty of an Italian cleaner, who had taken the contents a few minutes before the second appear-With the leisure of calm reflection that ance of the woman, and a hasty examin-

He saw clearly that he had been the BUSINSS-LIKE MILITARY .METH-

ODS. (From the London Telegraph.) This is a picture of a battallion leaving higher supernatural power to save him ed to wait a little and the turnstiles are some occult and unexplained sympathy he head of the battallion appears. It

The battallion is halted, turns toward Withal he was haunted by a vague hor- the train; in a moment the train is pack rer that it bodied ill to his wife or him- ed as full as it can hold. The guard cif, and he rushed home immediately whistles, the train moves off. There are quickly. But surely his voice had soft- had came, to spare her the agony of a ready to depart "on time." This is as far as I can remember the exact descrip-

Uriah Utter, an old citizen of Amity, N. Y., has just purchased the ancient school house in which he obtained his ducation. As soon as he got possession of it he set men to work tearing it down and destroying the material, out of revenge for some of the whippings which

he received beneath its roof. Mr. Utter says the punishment he received in his school days sixty years ago was unjust, and through all his life he night before. The Pullman car had tele- has held bitter feelings against the teachhas also regarded the old school building

> portunity over offered he would destroy the building, and with aht end in view structure and obliterate it.-Philadelphia copy. At all music stores,

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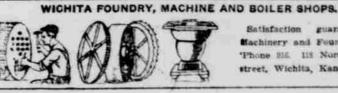
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